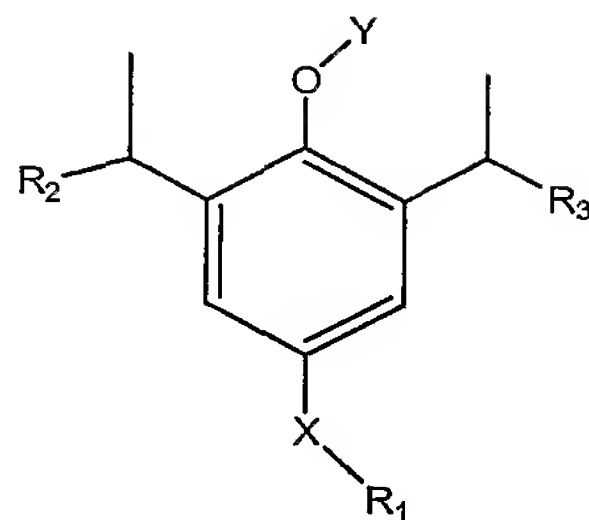


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula



wherein

R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or C_4-C_{20} aryl, and

R_2 and R_3 is C_1-C_6 alkyl.

X is $C=O$, $C=S$, $C=C$, CR_4R_5 , $C(OR_6)R_7$ or $C=N-OR_8$

Y is hydrogen, COR_4 , $COOR_4$, $CONR_4R_5$, $COSR_4$, phosphate.

wherein

R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are hydrogen, or C_1-C_6 alkyl.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is $C=O$, R_1 is C_4-C_{20} aryl, and R_2 and R_3 are methyl.
3. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is $C=O$, R_1 is C_4-C_{20} aryl, R_2 is hydrogen, and R_3 is methyl.
4. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is $C=O$, R_1 is C_4-C_{20} aryl, and R_2 and R_3 are ethyl.
5. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is $C=O$, R_1 is aryl, R_2 is hydrogen, and R_3 is ethyl.
6. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is $C=O$, R_1 is C_4-C_{20} aryl, R_2 is methyl, and R_3 is ethyl.

7. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, R₂ is hydrogen, and R₃ is propyl.
8. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, R₂ is methyl, and R₃ is propyl.
9. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, R₂ is ethyl, and R₃ is propyl.
10. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, and R₂ and R₃ are propyl.
11. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, and R₂ and R₃ are methyl.
12. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, R₂ is hydrogen, and R₃ is methyl.
13. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, and R₂ and R₃ are ethyl.
14. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R₁ is aryl, R₂ is hydrogen, and R₃ is ethyl.
15. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, R₂ is methyl, and R₃ is ethyl.
16. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, R₂ is hydrogen, and R₃ is propyl.
17. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, R₂ is methyl, and R₃ is propyl.
18. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, R₂ is ethyl, and R₃ is propyl.

19. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R₁ is C₄-C₂₀ aryl, and R₂ and R₃ are propyl.

20. The compound of claim 2, wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of 4-fluorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 4-bromophenyl, 3-bromophenyl, 2-bromophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 3-chloromethylphenyl, 2-iodophenyl, 4-iodophenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 3-propylphenyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 4-bromomethylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-biphenyl, 1-naphthalenyl, 2-naphthalenyl, 2-furanyl, 5-nitro-2-furanyl, 2-thiophenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 2,3-difluorophenyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl, 2,5-difluorophenyl, 2,6-difluorophenyl, 3,4-difluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl, 5-bromo-2-methoxyphenyl, 4-methyl-3-nitrophenyl, 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-6-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2,6-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4-trifluorophenyl, 2,3,6-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,5-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl, 2,4-dichloro-5-fluorophenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trifluoro-3-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4,5-tetrafluorophenyl, and pentafluorophenyl.

21. The compound of claim 2, wherein Y is H and R₁ is selected from the group consisting of 4-fluorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 4-bromophenyl, 3-bromophenyl, 2-bromophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 3-chloromethylphenyl, 2-iodophenyl, 4-iodophenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 3-propylphenyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 4-bromomethylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-biphenyl, 1-naphthalenyl, 2-naphthalenyl, 2-furanyl, 5-nitro-2-furanyl, 2-thiophenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 2,3-difluorophenyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl, 2,5-difluorophenyl, 2,6-difluorophenyl, 3,4-difluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl,

5-bromo-2-methoxyphenyl, 4-methyl-3-nitrophenyl, 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-6-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2,6-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4-trifluorophenyl, 2,3,6-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,5-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl, 2,4-dichloro-5-fluorophenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trifluoro-3-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4,5-tetrafluorophenyl, and pentafluorophenyl.

22. The compound of any of claims 3-10, wherein R_1 is phenyl.

23. The compound of any of claims 3-10, wherein R_1 is phenyl and Y is H.

24. The compound of any of claims 3-10, wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of 4-fluorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 4-bromophenyl, 3-bromophenyl, 2-bromophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 3-chloromethylphenyl, 2-iodophenyl, 4-iodophenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 3-propylphenyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 4-bromomethylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-biphenyl, 1-naphthalenyl, 2-naphthalenyl, 2-furanyl, 5-nitro-2-furanyl, 2-thiophenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 2,3-difluorophenyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl, 2,5-difluorophenyl, 2,6-difluorophenyl, 3,4-difluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl, 5-bromo-2-methoxyphenyl, 4-methyl-3-nitrophenyl, 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-6-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2,6-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4-trifluorophenyl, 2,3,6-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,5-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl, 2,4-dichloro-5-fluorophenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trifluoro-3-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4,5-tetrafluorophenyl, and pentafluorophenyl.

25. The compound of any of claims 3-10, wherein Y is H and R_1 is selected from the group consisting of 4-fluorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 4-bromophenyl,

3-bromophenyl, 2-bromophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 3-chloromethylphenyl, 2-iodophenyl, 4-iodophenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 3-propylphenyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 4-bromomethylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-biphenyl, 1-naphthalenyl, 2-naphthalenyl, 2-furanyl, 5-nitro-2-furanyl, 2-thiophenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 2,3-difluorophenyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl, 2,5-difluorophenyl, 2,6-difluorophenyl, 3,4-difluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl, 5-bromo-2-methoxyphenyl, 4-methyl-3-nitrophenyl, 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-6-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2,6-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4-trifluorophenyl, 2,3,6-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,5-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl, 2,4-dichloro-5-fluorophenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trifluoro-3-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4,5-tetrafluorophenyl, and pentafluorophenyl.

26. The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is H.
27. The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is H and X is C=O.
28. The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is phosphate or its salt.
29. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R₁ is 4-chlorophenyl, and R₂ and R₃ are each methyl.
30. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, R₁ is 4-chlorophenyl, and R₂ and R₃ are each methyl.
31. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R₁ is 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, and R₂ and R₃ are each methyl.
32. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, R₁ is 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, and R₂ and R₃ are each methyl.

33. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R₁ is 4-iodophenyl, and R₂ and R₃ are each methyl.
34. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, R₁ is 4-iodophenyl, and R₂ and R₃ are each methyl.
35. A method for preparing the compound of claim 1, which method comprises reacting an alkylphenol with acyl chloride in the presence of Lewis acid.
36. A method for preparing the compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, which method comprises reacting an alkylphenol with acyl chloride in the presence of Lewis acid.
37. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
38. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
39. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 37, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is for parenteral administration and comprises nanoparticles of an anesthetic inducing effective amount of the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable anesthetic carrier.
40. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 38, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is for parenteral administration and comprises nanoparticles of an anesthetic inducing effective amount of the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable anesthetic carrier.
41. A method of inducing sedation, hypnosis and/or sleep effect, or general anesthesia in a patient, which method comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1.

42. A method of inducing sedation, hypnosis and/or sleep effect, or general anesthesia in a patient, which method comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H.

43. The method of claim 41, wherein said administering is by a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, nasal respiratory administration, bolus injection, intravenous administration, continuous infusion, rectal administration, vaginal administration, sublingual administration, and cutaneous administration.

44. The method of claim 42, wherein said administering is by a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, nasal respiratory administration, bolus injection, intravenous administration, continuous infusion, rectal administration, vaginal administration, sublingual administration, and cutaneous administration.

45. The method of claim 41, wherein the method of administration is continuous infusion.

46. The method of claim 42, wherein the method of administration is continuous infusion.